



Lion City Sailors Chase Unbeaten Season After Sealing Back-To-Back SPL Crowns

Description

The **Lion City Sailors unbeaten season** is on. Two days after sealing back-to-back Singapore Premier League titles with a goalless draw at Our Tampines Hub on Sunday 3 May 2026, Jesus Casas's champions returned to training in the east with one prize still to chase – the first invincible league campaign by a local SPL side. The Sailors are now 20 league matches without defeat, with two final-round assignments left: Albirex Niigata (S) on Saturday 10 May 2026, then BG Tampines Rovers in the season-closer on Sunday 17 May 2026.

Source: Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)

Lion City Sailors unbeaten season: where the run stands

The 0-0 at Our Tampines Hub did three things at once. It clinched the title with two rounds spare, opened up an unassailable eight-point lead at the top of the SPL table, and lifted the Sailors past their previous club record of 19 league matches unbeaten – a sequence that ran through the back end of their 2021 maiden title and the start of the following campaign. Twenty matches, no defeats, and a settled identity that has hardened since head coach Jesus Casas took charge in mid-season: high-pressure forward play, a settled central spine of Bailey Wright and Hariss Harun, and a Croatian goalkeeper, Ivan Susak, on a genuinely elite run of form.

Susak's stoppage-time save from Jacob Mahler's goal-bound header at Tampines was his 10th clean sheet of the campaign and the Sailors' 12th overall. It also captured the spirit of the unbeaten run: the Sailors have not been remorselessly dominant in every match, but they have been very, very hard to beat.

Lion City Sailors unbeaten season: what the players are saying



Source: *Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)*

Casas was characteristically measured at full-time at Our Tampines Hub, but he did not hide what comes next. “To end the season unbeaten is a goal that we have in mind, and I can see the players are very hungry to achieve this objective,” the Spaniard said. “But for now, it’s important that we enjoy this moment with the team and our fans before we prepare for the next game.” Pressed afterwards, Casas confirmed the squad would not be rotated to protect the run – he wants the strongest available XI to start in both remaining fixtures.

Vice-captain Bailey Wright, the 33-year-old Australian who has now played 93 matches for the club since arriving in July 2023, echoed his coach’s words. “To win the league back-to-back is something pretty special and it just shows the character we have within this team. But the job is not done yet – we still have ambitions, we want to keep going and stay undefeated.” It is the kind of dressing-room language that suggests this group is unlikely to drift through these last two assignments.

The historical weight of going undefeated

Only one team has ever completed an unbeaten SPL season – Albirex Niigata (S), who managed it in 2018 while still operating as a foreign-quota outfit. That detail matters. If Casas’s Sailors close out 10 May and 17 May without losing, they will become the first locally-built squad to do it in the league’s modern era, and arguably the first under the SPL name to do so as a fully Singaporean roster led by Singaporean talent. That is the prize hanging over the next 11 days.

Lion City Sailors unbeaten season: 10 May at Jalan Besar



Source: *Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)*

Up first: Albirex Niigata (S) at Jalan Besar Stadium on Saturday 10 May 2026, kick-off 7.30pm. The fixture has plenty of bite – not only do the White Swans hold the only previous unbeaten record in this league, they also pushed Sailors all the way in their reverse fixture in February. Albirex have been chasing third place in recent weeks and will fancy the role of spoilers, particularly with the Sailors’s celebrations still ringing in the air.

Casas will likely lean on Maxime Lestienne and Anderson Lopes to lead the line, with Hami Syahin and Tsiy Ndenge offering pace and incision from midfield. Christopher van Huizen has been a consistent threat from set pieces all season – his teasing 32nd-minute corner against Tampines was one of several deliveries that Albirex will have studied carefully. Defensively, the Sailors will look to extend their run of 12 clean sheets, with Susak in the form of his career.

Then the season-closer: 17 May vs BG Tampines Rovers

The fixture list has saved the toughest test for last. The Sailors close at home to BG Tampines Rovers on Sunday 17 May 2026 – the same opponents whose stadium hosted the title-clinching 0-0. Tampines have been the only side to genuinely test the Sailors’s rhythm this campaign, and Gavin Lee’s group will arrive with pride at stake even if their own title hopes have already gone. Whether Albirex’s record falls, or whether Casas’s project earns a place in SPL history, may well come down to that final 90 minutes at Jalan Besar.



Source: *Lion City Sailors FC official website (lioncitysailorsfc.sg)*

Lion City Sailors unbeaten season: what it would mean for Singapore football

The wider stakes are real. The Sailors lost two of their best players to injury in October, were docked points by the AFC for an administrative breach, and had to absorb a managerial change midway through the campaign. To win the league in those circumstances was an achievement in itself; to add an unbeaten record on top would represent the most complete domestic season by a Singapore-born squad in the SPL era. It would also strengthen the case for the club's long-term investment model, which has now produced three SPL titles in six seasons since the 2020 inception.

Casas has already begun to look beyond. "We'll focus on our last two games now, but next season we want to push on and achieve strong results in continental competitions," he said. The reference to continental ambitions is pointed – the Sailors will not feature in 2026/27 AFC competitions, but Casas wants the squad's standards to remain set against the best in Asia for when they return. For now, though, all eyes are on 10 and 17 May. For more on the title race and run-in, see our coverage of the [Sailors retaining the SPL title](#), the [Tampines title showdown preview](#), and the rest of our [Sports section](#).

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